

MOTION BY MAYOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

APRIL 18, 2006

“CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS WEEK”

National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, April 23-29, 2006, commemorates “Victims’ Rights: Strength in Unity.” In a county as populous and diverse as Los Angeles, it is vital that we never forget to band together and protect our most vulnerable citizens, including victims of crime.

The District Attorney’s Victim-Witness Assistance Program was organized in 1978 to provide direct services to crime victims. The program is financed by seven state and federal grants and compacts, funded by the fines and penalties paid by criminal defendants – not tax dollars. Last year, program advocates assisted 21,958 victims of crimes and more than 700 witnesses, and filed 4,968 applications for financial assistance with the State Restitution Fund. The Claims Verification Unit paid out more than \$9,645,047 in benefits to victims, \$1,788,147 for emergency funeral-burial assistance and \$223,434 in emergency allocations for food and shelter.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors proclaims the week of April 23-29, 2006 as “Crime Victims’ Rights Week” throughout Los Angeles County, and honors the work of the women and men of the District Attorney’s Victim-Witness Assistance Program, and all others who provide comfort and aid to crime victims.

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Crime Victims’ Rights Week

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BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
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